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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,064	10/31/2003	Johanna G.H. van Haaster	FG5	6520
26841	7590	02/25/2004		EXAMINER
MARK P. BOURGEOIS			BELL, KENT L	
P.O. BOX 95				ART UNIT
OSCEOLA, IN 46561				PAPER NUMBER
			1661	

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/700,064	HAASTER, JOHANNA G.H. VAN
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kent L. Bell	1661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

*application filed 10/31/03*

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 10/31/03 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

**Detailed Action**

**Oath/Declaration**

It is noted that applicant has not marked the box on the Plant Patent Transmittal form that an Oath/Declaration was filed. After reviewing the contents of the application no Oath/Declaration was filed. Applicant must file an Oath/Declaration (MPEP 602).

**Objection to the Disclosure**

**37 CFR 1.163**

The following is a quotation of section (a) of 37 CFR 1.163:

(a) The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties, and its antecedents, and must particularly point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced. In the case of a newly found plant, the specification must particularly point out the location and character of the area where the plant was discovered.

**35 USC § 112**

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**Detailed Action**

As specific to United States Plant Patent applications, the specifics of 37 CFR 1.164 (reproduced below) are controlling:

The claim shall be in formal terms to the new and distinct variety of the specified plant as described and illustrated, and may also recite the principal distinguishing characteristics. More than one claim is not permitted.

In plant applications filed under 35 U.S.C 161, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 are limited. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 162:

No plant patent shall be declared invalid for noncompliance with section 112 of this title if the description is as complete as is reasonably possible. The claim in the specification shall be in formal terms to the plant shown and described.

The disclosure is objected to under 35 CFR 1.163(a) and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification presents less than a full, clear, and complete botanical description of the plant and the characteristics which define same per se and which distinguish the plant from related known cultivars and antecedents.

More Specifically:

A. Page 1, lines 3, 9, 15, and 16, and page 3, lines 8 and 9, Applicant should either italicize or underline “Dahlia Variabilis” as this is the proper way to set forth a Genus and species. Further, applicant should lowercase “variabilis” as this is the proper way to set forth a species.

**Detailed Action**

B. Page 4, line 12, Applicant sets forth a leaf shape. It is not understood whether applicant has intended this to be the entire leaf shape or leaflet shape. Applicant should set forth in the specification the leaf and leaflet shapes.

C. Page 4, lines 13, 14, and 20, Applicant states "Leaf". However, it appears applicant may have intended to state "Leaflet". Correction and/or clarification is necessary.

D. Page 5, lines 1, 11-13, and 15-18, Applicant states "Flower". Rather than stating "Flower" it appears - -Inflorescence- - would be the more botanically correct term to use in these instances.

E. Page 5, line 4, Applicant states "flowers". Rather than stating "flowers" it appears - -ray florets and disc florets- - would be the more botanically correct terms to use in this instance.

F. Page 5, lines 4 and 16, Applicant states "no disc florets" and "Ray florets only", respectively. Applicant should verify that disc florets are not produced as Dahlias typically produce both ray and disc florets.

**Detailed Action**

G. Page 5, lines 5, and 7 and abstract, Applicant states “flowers”. Rather than stating “flowers” it appears - -inflorescences- - would be the more botanically correct term to use in these instances.

H. Page 5, lines 6 and 9, Applicant states “flower”. Rather than stating “flower” it appears - -inflorescence- - would be the more botanically correct term to use in these instances.

I. Page 5, lines 23 and 24, Applicant should set forth in the specification additional information relative to the instant plant’s ray florets including the typical and observed ray floret base descriptor.

J. Page 6, lines 3-13, Applicant states the instant plant produces sepals. Sepals are not typically produced on Dahlia plants. Applicant should verify whether sepals are produced. Applicant could possibly mean phyllary.

K. Page 6, lines 14-23, Applicant states “Involucral Bracts” and “Involucral Bract”. Rather than stating “Involucral Bracts” and “Involucral Bract” it appears - -Phyllaries- - and - -Phyllary- - would be the more botanically correct terms to use in these instances.

**Detailed Action**

L. Applicant should set forth in the specification information relative to the instant plant's pest resistance/susceptibility.

The above listing may not be complete. Applicant should carefully review the disclosure and import into same any corrected or additional information which would aid in botanically identifying and/or distinguishing the cultivar for which United States Plant Patent protection is sought.

**Claim Rejection**

**35 U.S.C. 112, 1st & 2nd Paragraphs**

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs as not being supported by a clear and complete botanical description of the plant for the reasons set forth in the Objection to the Disclosure Section above.

**Comments**

Applicant should note the new amendment format which is now mandatory (Web site stated below).

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognitice/revamdtprac.htm>

Applicant should send all correspondence to the following address:

**Detailed Action**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**Future Correspondence**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Kent L. Bell whose telephone number is (571) 272-0973. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 6:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell, can be reached at (571) 272-0974.

The fax phone number for the group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

K. L. Bell

KENT BELL  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

*Kent L. Bell*